

## **FCC REPORTS DESPIERTA AMERICA JANUARY 2-18 PART 1**

**01/02/2012**

NOTHING TO REPORT

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**01/03/2012**

NOTHING TO REPORT

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**1/4/2012**

### **NEW AIRPORT SCREENING LAW FOR TROOPS**

**VO: 25**

Those slow airport screenings may soon be fast-tracked for members of the military. President Obama signed into law today a bill to speed up the checkpoint process for service members who are in uniform and traveling on orders. The law doesn't spell how the T-S-A should make that happen -- but suggests putting service members into trusted traveler programs, where the lines are faster and people are pre-screened.

A spokesman for Minnesota Republican Congressman Chip Cravaack, who championed the bill, says the law is only meant to make the screenings faster, not reduce security.

### **SMALL BUSINESSES UP**

**VO: 25**

Small businesses created 55,000 new jobs in December as a recent trend of employees working fewer hours and receiving less pay reversed, according to Intuit Inc.'s (INTU) monthly small business employment index. For the period of Nov. 24 to Dec. 23, Intuit said small business employment inched up 0.3%, equaling an annual growth rate of 3.3%. The firm also raised its estimate of jobs added in November to 70,000 from 55, 000 previously reported.

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**1/5/2012**

## **OBAMA-SUMMER JOBS**

**VO: 25**

President Barack Obama is looking to boost summer job prospects for kids. The White House says that with help from the private sector it's gotten commitments for nearly 180,000 youth employment opportunities for next summer and is aiming for tens of thousands more.

## **UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS**

**VO: 21**

The number of people seeking unemployment benefits fell further in the final week of 2011, a positive sign for hiring one day ahead of Friday's December employment report. The Labor Department says weekly applications dropped 15,000 to a seasonally adjusted 372,000 last week. It was the fourth drop in five weeks. The four-week average, which smooths fluctuations, declined to 373,250, the lowest level since June 2008. When applications drop below 375,000 -- consistently -- they generally signal that hiring is strong enough to reduce the unemployment rate.

## **RETAIL SALES**

**VO: 25**

Many retailers are reporting solid sales gains for December, capping a decent holiday season. But merchants relied on heavy discounting to get shoppers to buy in a challenging economy, raising concern about what it will take to get them to spend again in coming months. As retailers reported their results Thursday, Limited Brands Inc., Macy's Inc. and teen retailer The Buckle posted strong revenue gains that beat analysts' estimates.

## **KODAK PREPARES FOR CHAPTER 11 FILING**

**VO: 28**

An uncomfortable suspicion that an icon of American business may have no future pushed investors to dump stock in Eastman Kodak Co. Wednesday. The ailing photography pioneer's shares fell to a new all-time low after the Wall Street Journal reported that Kodak is preparing for a Chapter 11 filing "in the coming weeks" should it fail to sell a trove of 1,100 digital-imaging patents. Analysts have said the patents could fetch \$2 billion to \$3 billion, but no takers have emerged since Kodak started shopping them around in July.

## **CANCER RATE DOWN**

**VO: 35**

Death rates from cancer continue a slow but steady march downward in the United States, with a few exceptions, the American Cancer Society reported on Wednesday. The group estimates that the reduction translates to a million lives saved since 1990. The American Cancer Society's annual report shows that between 2004 and 2008, the incidence of cancer fell by just over half a percent in men while it was stable in women. Death rates fell by 1.8 percent a year in men and 1.6 percent every year in women.

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**1/6/2012**

## **ECONOMY**

**VO: 25**

A burst of hiring in December pushed the unemployment rate to its lowest level in nearly three years, giving the economy a boost at the end of 2011. The Labor Department says employers added a net 200,000 jobs last month and the unemployment rate fell to 8.5 percent, the lowest since February 2009. The rate has dropped for four straight months.

## **HOMELESS HOMICIDES**

**VO: 21**

Police and advocates are warning homeless people in Orange County to be careful if they sleep on the streets because a serial killer who is hunting the homeless has already killed three men. Orange County Rescue Mission President Jim Palmer says his group is handing out flashlights and whistles to the homeless, in an effort to help them protect themselves.

## **OBAMA NEW DEFENSE REGULATIONS**

**VO: 20**

After killing Osama bin Laden, withdrawing troops from Iraq and starting to wind down the war in Afghanistan, President Barack Obama says the United States is "turning a page" when it comes to defense strategy. He's vowing that the U.S. military will still be the world's strongest, even as the Pentagon cuts spending, shrinks the Army and Marine Corps and pulls back from Europe. The new strategy will guide future defense budgets, including the one that Obama will submit to Congress next month. Republicans are quickly offering criticism. The chairman of the House Armed Services Committee, Buck McKeon of California, calls it a "retreat from the world in the guise of a new strategy

## **SUMMER JOBS WHITE HOUSE**

**PKG: 1:41 - MARIA EUGENIA PAYAN**

The White House says President Barack Obama will announce a summer youth employment opportunity program on Thursday. Private firms are expected to commit to at least 180,000 positions. Many of slots will offer unpaid training.

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**01/09/2012**

## **FOOD STAMPS**

**VO:24**

Politicians normally shy away from saying they want to cut food stamps, but this year's Republican presidential candidates are using domestic food aid as an example of a welfare state gone awry. Supporters of the program say it is one of the most reliable safety nets for families who suddenly find themselves unable to pay for food, and politically the program has proved almost untouchable over many decades. More than 45 million people received the benefit last year at a \$75 billion cost to the government, a record number as the economy has flailed. Republican presidential candidate Newt Gingrich and fellow contender Rick Santorum, both heavily involved in congressional welfare reform efforts in the mid-1990s, say the government should stop promoting a welfare-like state and convert food stamp spending to block grants to states, a move that could freeze spending and cut the benefit to many who now receive it.

## **U.S. DEBT IS NOW EQUAL TO ECONOMY**

### **VO:20**

Supporters of Republican presidential candidate Mitt Romney stand next to a national debt clock during a rally Sunday in Exeter, N.H. The debt is projected to surge. The amount of money the federal government owes to its creditors, combined with IOUs to government retirement and other programs, now tops \$15.23 trillion. That's roughly equal to the value of all goods and services the U.S. economy produces in one year: \$15.17 trillion as of September, the latest estimate. Private projections show the economy likely grew to about \$15.3 trillion by December - a level the debt is likely to surpass this month. "The 100% mark means that your entire debt is as big as everything you're producing in your country," says Steve Bell of the Bipartisan Policy Center, which has proposed cutting nearly \$6 trillion in red ink over 10 years. "Clearly, that can't continue." Long-term projections suggest the debt will continue to grow faster than the economy, which would have to expand by at least 6% a year to keep pace

## **GAS PRICES GOES UP**

### **VO:19**

National gas prices up 12 cents in past 3 weeks average price of a gallon of gasoline nationwide has spiked 12 cents over the past three weeks. That's according to the Lundberg Survey of fuel prices, which puts the price of a gallon of regular at \$3.36. Midgrade costs an average of \$3.51 a gallon, and premium is at \$3.62. Diesel held steady, at \$3.90 a gallon. Of the cities surveyed, Salt Lake City, Utah, has the nation's lowest average price for gas at \$2.86. Los Angeles has the highest at \$3.69.

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**01/10/2012**

## **SUPREME COURT BROADCAST**

**VO:29**

The Supreme Court is considering whether government regulators may still police the airwaves for curse words and other coarse content at a time when so many Americans have unregulated cable television, and the Internet is awash in easily accessible adult material. The justices are hearing arguments Tuesday in a First Amendment case that pits the Obama administration against the nation's television networks. The material at issue includes the isolated use of expletives as well as fines against broadcasters who showed a woman's nude buttocks on a 2003 episode of ABC's "NYPD Blue." A federal appeals court struck down the Federal Communications Commission's regulation of so-called indecent material.

## **TPS FOR SALVADOREANS**

**VO:23**

San Salvador, Jan 9 (Prensa Latina) Hugo Martinez, El Salvador's Foreign Minister, will discuss an extension of the Temporary Protected Status (TPS) for immigrants in the United States with the secretary of National Security Janet Napolitano. The TPS was adopted after the earthquakes of 2001 and expires on March 8 this year. Up to now it covers the stay in that country of about 215 thousand Salvadorans. In the announcement of his trip, Martinez said that the U.S. government could announce the extension of the program for another 18 months on Monday. We have always said that we have great expectations that the announcement will be positive, but the U.S. authorities have to do it and they know on what terms they will, he said. The Foreign Minister met in Washington last November with Napolitano, demanding the extension of the TPS. The U.S. authorities estimate that some 2.5 million Salvadorans, mostly undocumented, live there, and Martinez said that the Foreign Ministry is ready to help their compatriots to register with the TPS.

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**01/11/2012**

## **TUCSON SCHOOLS SUSPEND MEXICAN AMERICAN STUDIES CLASS**

**VO: 31**

The Tucson Unified School District voted late Tuesday to suspend its controversial Mexican American studies program rather than lose more than \$14 million in funding after the state schools chief ruled the program violated the law. During a raucous session that included passionate public comments and accusations of cowardice, the board voted 4 to 1 to suspend the classes. If it had not, the district would have lost about \$5 million in state funding in February, retroactive to last August, and \$14.4 million over the fiscal year, according to the state Department of Education. The new law bans classes that are primarily designed for a particular ethnic group or that "promotes resentment toward a race or class of people." Last week, state Superintendent of Public Instruction John Huppenthal ruled the Tucson program in violation. The board could have gone to court to contest his decision, as well as his order that 10% of the district's monthly share of state aid be withheld until the program came into compliance. It decided not to do so.

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**01/12/2012**

## **UNEMPLOYMENT APPLICATIONS UP**

**VO: 24**

The number of people applying for weekly unemployment benefits spiked last week, largely because companies let go of thousands of workers after the holiday season. The Labor Department says applications jumped by 24,000 to a seasonally adjusted 399,000, the most in six weeks. That followed three months of steady declines that brought applications to the lowest level in more than three years. Applications typically soar in the first two weeks of the year. That's because companies are letting go of temporary workers brought on to help during the holidays. The department attempts to adjust for those patterns, but the data can be volatile. The four-week average, which smooths fluctuations, also rose, to 381,750. It had fallen to a three-and-a-half-year low in the previous week.

## **FORECLOSURES**

**VO: 25**

RealtyTrac reports sharp drop in home repossessions in 2011. A firm that tracks foreclosures says they were down 34 percent last year, but are likely to bump up this year. RealtyTrac says the reason for the drop was procedural delays that artificially reduced the foreclosure rate. Spokesman Daren Bloomquist says although the rate is likely to rise this year, the worst of the crisis is over. The number of homes facing foreclosure action totaled 1.9 million in 2011, the lowest level since 2007. There have been more than four million bank repossessions in the past

five years. Las Vegas was the foreclosure capital last year, and California had 10 of the top 20 highest foreclosure rates in metropolitan areas.

## **RICH & POOR CONFLICTS**

**VO: 28**

Americans believe that there is more conflict between rich and poor than between immigrants and the native-born or between blacks and whites, according to a Pew Research Center opinion survey released on Wednesday. Researchers found 30 percent of Americans say there are "very strong conflicts" between the poor and the rich, which is the largest share expressing that opinion since the question was first asked in 1987, the Pew report said. In all, 66 percent of respondents to the Pew survey said there are either "very strong" or "strong" conflicts between rich and poor.

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**01/13/2012**

**NOTHING TO REPORT**

**=====END OF PART 1=====**